

REMARKS

In the Office Action of August 20, 2008, claims 2 and 4-10 were allowed, and claims 11-16 were rejected. With this paper, claims 11 and 14 are amended, none are canceled, and none are added.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102

Claims 11-16 are rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Guscho (WO 01/48531, Guscho hereinafter).

In rejecting these claims, the Office cites Figures 23 and 24 and pages 50-51 of Guscho for teaching multiple electrodes connected to multiple switches in order to enhance the sensitivity of the light modulator to control voltages.

Applicant respectfully submits that the arrangements shown in Figures 23 and 24 are doubled cell structures that are derived from the original cell structure shown in Figure 1 of Guscho. In both Figure 23 and Figure 24, the cell 1 comprises two support electrodes 6 and 43, two signal electrodes 3 and 47, and two gel layers 5 and 44, each gel layer being placed between its respective support electrode and signal electrode. Nowhere in either Figure 23 or Figure 24 is there an enhancement electrode, in addition to the support electrode and the signal electrode, which is arranged in the proximity of the signal electrode. Even if, for the sake of the argument, the arrangement as shown in Figure 23 is regarded as one electrode (43) arranged in the proximity of another electrode (3) and the arrangement in Figure 24 is regarded as one electrode (47) arranged in the proximity of another electrode (3), the electrodes arranged next to each other are not connected in a way that a transfer of an electrical charge from one electrode (3) to another electrode (43 or 47) is possible (see the wiring diagrams of Figures 23 and 24).

With this paper, claims 11 and 14 are amended in order to further distinguish the claimed invention.

Based on the above, claims 11 and 14 are now patentable in view of Guscho. Claims 12 and 13 depend from claim 11 and claims 15 and 16 depend from claim 14. They should also be

patentable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 11-16 under 35 USC §102(b) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

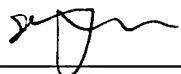
Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the claims in the application are now in condition for allowance, and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicants' agent urges the Examiner to call to discuss the present response if there are any questions.

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